

# Commander's Call Topics



Feb. 4, 2011

*"Unfortunately, we are experiencing even more intense budgetary pressures as we operate under a continuing resolution that effectively cuts another \$23 billion from the defense budget. We'll do our best to utilize operations and maintenance accounts to compensate for the difference, but that means stretching programs and possibly affecting training and readiness, which really concerns me."* – Air Force Chief of Staff Gen. Norton Schwartz from [remarks](#) at the Reserve Officers Association National Security Symposium

## CURRENT ISSUES

### [Air Force officials announce FY11 additional force management measures](#)

Air Force leaders announced involuntary force management programs to reduce personnel as a supplement to the voluntary programs announced in December. These measures are part of the Air Force's multi-year Force Management Program aimed at shaping and sizing the force. The fiscal 2011 involuntary force management efforts predominantly affect officers. For more information on force management programs, visit the [Air Force Personnel Center](#) website.

## PERSONNEL ISSUES

### [Officials to conduct DOS rollback](#)

The date of service rollback affects enlisted members in the grades of senior master sergeant and below with fewer than 14 or more than 20 years of service as of May 31, 2011. The rollback will accelerate the date of separation for Airmen based on their years of service and certain re-enlistment eligibility, assignment availability and grade status reason codes as well as reporting identifiers. For more information on force management programs, visit the [Air Force Personnel Center](#) website.

### [New camouflage uniforms will be issued to deployers](#)

Airmen deploying to Afghanistan in 2011 will see a new uniform issued to them as part of their deployment gear beginning in March. The new uniform, called the Operation Enduring Freedom Camouflage Pattern, or OCP, is the same uniform recently fielded in Afghanistan to U.S. Soldiers.

### [WMD program available for officers, civilians](#)

Officials are seeking nominations to participate in the Program for Emerging Leaders and the study of weapons of mass destruction. This professional development opportunity is for officers in the rank of captain or major, or civilians in grades GS-09 through GS-13. Nominations are due to NDU by Feb. 18. For more information on this program, visit the [NDU](#) website.

### [Entries being accepted for Federal Voting Assistance Program poster and slogan contests](#)

Federal Voting Assistance Program officials are opening the program's biennial [voting poster and slogan contests](#) to all U.S. citizens worldwide. The [FVAP](#) Slogan Contest challenge asks for slogan ideas that inspire members of the military, their families and U.S. citizens residing overseas to start or continue to participate in elections while away from home.

## GUARD AND RESERVE

### [Air Force Reserve has opportunities for separating Airmen](#)

Air Force Reserve officials want separating Airmen to consider opportunities as a reservist. Becoming a traditional reservist or an individual mobilization augmentee offers them the opportunity to pursue a civilian career and still serve their country. For more information, visit [www.afreserve.com](http://www.afreserve.com) or call 800-257-1212.

## **FAMILY, HEALTH AND SAFETY**

### **Commissaries expand focus on health in 2011**

Customers who want to improve their health will have plenty of help at their local commissary as the new year rolls out a variety of special discounts, coupon booklets and giveaways. For information about special promotions at your local commissary, go to <http://www.commissaries.com>.

## **FINANCES AND EDUCATION**

### **Free Tax Preparation Resources for Military Personnel**

Most military installations have a Volunteer Income Tax Assistance office that provides free tax advice, tax preparation, and assistance to military members and their families. If you prefer to do your taxes yourself, there are several options to efile your taxes online: [Military OneSource Tax Program](#), which provides free access to a customized version of the basic H&R Block at Home electronic tax-filing product; [TaxSlayer.com](#) offers free e-file of federal and state returns for active-duty military; [TurboTax Freedom Edition](#) and [IRS Free File](#) are available to taxpayers with an adjusted gross income of \$58,000 or less.

### **Air Force Association scholarship and grant opportunities**

AFA is an independent, nonprofit, civilian education organization promoting public understanding of aerospace power and the pivotal role it plays in the security of the nation. AFA has a variety of scholarships available for Airmen and their families. For more information, go to <http://www.afa.org/aef/aid/scholars.asp>.

## **TECHNOLOGY**

### **Antivirus Software Can Now Be Downloaded at Home**

Department of Defense military and civilian personnel can download free antivirus software for their home computers from the DOD Patch Repository website. Note that contractors are excluded from using the software at home or on any other system not belonging to the DOD. Users can first contact their local help desk for a copy of home use antivirus software. If the help desk does not have copies of the anti-virus software for home use, users may download software. Visit the [AF Portal](#) for details.

## **RESOURCES**

### ***AF.mil***

<http://www.af.mil>

### ***Airman magazine***

<http://www.airmanonline.af.mil/>

### ***Air Force Community***

<http://www.afcommunity.af.mil/>

### ***Air Force Outreach***

<http://www.afoutreach.af.mil/>

### ***Military OneSource***

<http://www.militaryonesource.com/>

### ***Military HOMEFRONT***

<http://www.militaryhomefront.dod.mil/>

### ***Air Force Personnel Center***

<http://gum.afpc.randolph.af.mil/>

<http://www.afpc.randolph.af.mil/>

**Air Reserve Personnel Center**

<http://www.arpc.afrc.af.mil/>

**Department of Defense**

<http://www.defense.gov>

**Department of Defense News**

<http://www.defenselink.mil>

**TRICARE**

<http://www.tricare.mil>

**U.S. Government Web site**

<http://www.firstgov.gov/>

**Employment Opportunities**

[www.usajobs.com](http://www.usajobs.com)

[www.nafjobs.org](http://www.nafjobs.org)

## **AIR FORCE HERITAGE TO HORIZONS**

### **This Week in Air Force History**

**Feb. 6, 1991** – Reserve Capt. Robert R. Swain of the 706th Tactical Fighter Squadron scored the first A-10 Thunderbolt II air-to-air kill by shooting down an Iraqi helicopter.

**Feb. 10, 1908** – Capt. Charles S. Wallace signed the first Army airplane contract with the Wright Brothers for the Signal Corp. Augustus M. Herring and James F. Schott also received contracts, but both failed to produce planes.

**Feb. 10, 1952** – Leading a flight of three F-86 Sabres on a combat air patrol mission near the Manchurian border, Maj. George A. Davis Jr. engaged 12 enemy MiG-15 jet fighters in aerial combat. Major Davis was the first Airman to become an ace in two wars.

**Feb. 10, 1958** – Airman 1st Class Donald G. Farrell spent a week in a space-cabin simulator for a "trip to the moon" at Randolph Air Force Base, Texas.

**Feb. 10, 1969** – Sgt. Nacey Kent received the Air Force Cross for his heroic actions in Vietnam when his C-47 Skytrain was shot down May 5, 1968, while defending an air base mortar attack. Despite his own serious injuries, he evacuated his crew to safety away from the burning aircraft and returned to extinguish the fire.

**Feb. 10, 1994** – Lt. Jeannie Flynn, the first woman selected for U.S. Air Force combat pilot training, completed training in an F-15E Strike Eagle.

For more information on Air Force heritage, visit <http://www.airforcehistory.af.mil>.

*The Defense Media Activity-San Antonio produces Commander's Call Topics weekly. For questions or comments about this or any other DMA-SA product, send e-mail to [afproducts@dma.mil](mailto:afproducts@dma.mil). To subscribe to Air Force news and information products online, go to [www.af.mil/information/subscribe](http://www.af.mil/information/subscribe).*